

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A hybrid speech encoder, comprising:

- (a) a linear prediction, pitch and, voicing analyzer;
- (b) a parametric encoder coupled to said analyzer; and
- (c) a waveform encoder coupled to said analyzer;
- (d) wherein said parametric encoder encodes an alignment phase.

Claim 2 (original) The encoder of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said alignment phase is encoded as the difference of an intermediate phase and a phase alignment to codebook waveform phase.

Claim 3 (original) A speech decoder, comprising:

- (a) a linear prediction synthesizer; and
- (b) a parametric decoder coupled to said synthesizer;
- (c) wherein said parametric decoder decodes an alignment phase.

Claim 4 (original) A speech encoder, comprising:

- (a) a linear prediction, pitch and, voicing analyzer; and
- (b) a parametric encoder coupled to said analyzer;
- (c) wherein said parametric encoder encodes an alignment phase.

Claim 5 (new) The encoder of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said analyzer, said parametric encoder, and said waveform encoder are implemented as programs on a programmable processor

Claim 6 (new) The decoder of claim 3, wherein:

(a) said synthesizer and said parametric decoder are implemented as programs on a programmable processor

Claim 7 (new) The encoder of claim 4, wherein:

(a) said analyzer and said parametric encoder are implemented as programs on a programmable processor